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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Soviet Troops in COTTBUS

EVALUATION  25X1 PLACE OBTAINED  25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 28 October to 5 November 1949

DATE OBTAINED  25X1 DATE PREPARED 10 January 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)REMARKS RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY

25X1 1. The following observations were made in COTTBUS (N 52/A 57) on 28 October 1949:

a. Alvensleben (Artillerie) Kaserne on Vishmarkt:

(1) Artillery unit of about 400 troops, including 18 to 20-year-old recruits.

(2) Four 122-mm guns, four 76.2-mm guns with muzzle brake, five 57-mm AT guns, three aiming circles, two battery commander's telescopes and 18 trucks were seen in the kaserne area.

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b. Hermann Loens Kaserne at 97 Reichstrasse:

Tank unit of about 400 troops. Five JS tanks, three T34 tanks, 12 other canvas-covered tanks and one 122-mm SP gun were seen in the kaserne area.

c. Bunker Kaserne on Gultenerstrasse:

AAA unit of 400 to 500 troops. Eight 37-mm AA guns on four wheel mounts and four heavy machine guns were seen.

d. Sachsendorf Kaserne:

(1) About 2,000 troops of tank and artillery units, the former being equipped with AA guns, heavy AT guns and rocket launchers, according to local residents.

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25X1 (2) Trucks  and passenger car  were identified in the kaserne area.

2. The following observations were made in the COTTBUS military post between 31 October and 5 November 1949:

a. Artillery Kaserne on Karl Liebknechtstrasse:

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(1) Artillery unit of about 500 troops, mostly young soldiers.

(2) Three 76.2-mm guns were parked in front of the garages.

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b. Junker Kaserne on Burgen Chaussee and Gulbenerstrasse:

(1) AAA unit of about 500 troops, including 200 recruits.

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(2) Seven 76.2-mm AA guns and three heavy AA machine guns were emplaced on the southwest border of the landing field of the COTTHUS airfield. The gun crews, from the former Junker Kaserne, were accommodated in earth bunkers beside the guns.

(4) A telephone line was extended between the emplacements and the Junker Kaserne.

25X1 (5) Truck [redacted] from which boxes were unloaded, was parked at the emplacement.

c. Sachsendorf Kaserne:

(1) Large artillery unit, recruit unit and signal unit, the latter numbering about 200 troops. No heavy weapons were observed.

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d. Hermann Loens Kaserne:

(1) Division headquarters and tank unit totaling about 500 officers and EM. Field officers, most of who wearing tank insignia, were billeted in houses on Gagelowerstrasse.

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e. Lissenden Kaserne:

(1) About 1,300 troops of tank and artillery units.

(2) A convoy of five trucks, occupied by 20 tank troops each, left the Kaserne toward COTTHUS on 31 October 1949 at about 11 a.m. No arms and baggage were observed with the troops.

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25X1 [ ] Comment:

a. It is assumed with a fair degree of certainty that the COTTBUS units of the 9th Mecz Div (Cadre) returned to their quarters in early November 1949.

b. The observations made in COTTBUS up to 5 November 1949 are considered to confirm the following units:

(1) HQ 9th Mecz Div (Cadre), in the Hermann Loeffens Kaserne

(2) 71st Mecz Regt (Cadre) [ ] in the Bissenchen Kaserne

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(3) 1719th AA Regt (Cadre), in the Funkor Kaserne.

c. The following units may be stationed in COTTBUS:

(1) 692d Art Regt (Cadre) in the former Alvensleben Kaserne

25X1 (2) [ ] Sig Bn (Cadre) and Rocket Bn, in the former Sachsendorf Kaserne.

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